

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ROME 14686 091730Z

ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05

H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 ACDA-07 /090 W

-----033195 100342Z /15

R 091616Z SEP 77

FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7062

INFO USMISSION USUN

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIVI

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

C O N F I D E N T I A L ROME 14686

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UN, PLO, IT

SUBJECT: PRE-32ND UNGA CONSULTATIONS III: MIDDLE EAST

REF: A) STATE 205678, B) ROME 13977

1. EMBOFF DISCUSSED MIDDLE EAST AT 32ND UNGA WITH MFA ACTING DIRECTOR FOR MIDDLE EASTERN AFFAIRS VENTO. HE EXPRESSED ITALIAN SUPPORT FOR US POSITION AS SET FORTH IN TALKING POINTS AND WENT ON TO EXPRESS HIS GOVERNMENT'S APPRECIATION NOT ONLY FOR THIS PRE-UNGA CONSULTATION BUT ALSO FOR EARLIER BRIEFING ON SECRETARY VANCE'S MIDDLE EAST TRIP. VENTO SAID THAT MINISTER FORLANI HAD INTENDED TO SAY THIS IN PERSON TO SECRETARY HAD HIS TRIP TO ROME TAKEN PLACE.

2. IN THIS CONNECTION VENTO BROUGHT UP AGAIN QUESTION HE HAD EARLIER INDICATED WOULD BE RAISED BY FORLANI DURING
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PAGE 02 ROME 14686 091730Z

SECRETARY'S VISIT (REF B); WHETHER SOME "GESTURE" BY US MIGHT BE EFFECTIVE IN ENCOURAGING PLO EVOLUTION IN MODERATE DIRECTION AND SPECIFICALLY IN DIRECTION OF ACCEPTING RESOLUTION 242. GESTURE WHICH VENTO HAD IN MIND WAS GRANTING VISA TO PLO REPRESENTATIVE TO OPEN INFORMATION OFFICE IN WASHINGTON. HE OBSERVED THAT PLO AIM IN GENERAL IS NOT REALLY TO OPEN INFORMATION OFFICES

AROUND THE WORLD BUT RATHER TO GAIN DEGREE OF RECOGNITION THROUGH WHATEVER OFFICIAL ACTION IN INVOLVED IN GETTING PERMISSION FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF OFFICE. FOR THIS REASON, PLO HAD SOUGHT (SUCCESSFULLY) TO ESTABLISH OFFICES IN PARIS AND BRUSSELS, WHERE GOVERNMENT PERMISSION NEEDED, BUT NOT IN LONDON, WHERE IT IS NOT NEEDED. IN CASE OF WASHINGTON, AIM IS NOT TO OPEN OFFICE, BUT TO GET US GOVERNMENT TO GRANT VISA TO PLO REPRESENTATIVE.

3. VENTO ADDED THAT MFA EXPECTS CAMPAIGN FOR ITALIAN GOVERNMENT RECOGNITION OF PLO TO HEAT UP THIS FALL. HE REITERATED THAT RECOGNITION WAS OUT OF THE QUESTION AS GOI DOES NOT RECOGNIZE LIBERATION MOVEMENTS. PLO EFFORT THEREFORE IS LIKELY TO FOCUS ON GAINING PERMISSION TO OPEN OFFICE. SUCH PERMISSION WOULD HAVE TO BE GRANTED BY MINISTRY OF INTERIOR (ON INFORMAL MFA RECOMMENDATION). VENTO SAID THAT GOI FEELS THAT IT HAS BEEN SUFFICIENTLY RECEPTIVE TO PLO IN PAST INCLUDING PERMITTING "SPOKESMAN" TO OPERATE OUT OF ARAB LEAGUE OFFICE AND HAS NO INTENTION OF GIVING PERMISSION FOR OPENING OF OFFICE IN NEAR FUTURE. GARDNER

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Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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